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Award Number: DAMD17-00-1-0424

TITLE: Acustimulation for the Control of Chemotherapy-Induced  
Nausea in Breast Cancer Patients

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REPORT DATE: August 2002

TYPE OF REPORT: Annual

PREPARED FOR: U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command  
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT: Approved for Public Release;  
Distribution Unlimited

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**REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE**Form Approved  
OMB No. 074-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing this collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503

<b>1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)</b>		<b>2. REPORT DATE</b> August 2002	<b>3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED</b> Annual (1 Aug 01 - 31 Jul 02)	
<b>4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE</b> Acustimulation for the Control of Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea in Breast Cancer Patients			<b>5. FUNDING NUMBERS</b> DAMD17-00-1-0424	
<b>6. AUTHOR(S)</b> Joseph A. Roscoe, Ph.D. Gary R. Morrow, Ph.D. Peter Bushunow, M.D.				
<b>7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b> University of Rochester Rochester, New York 14627  E-Mail: Joseph_Roscoe@URMC.Rochester.edu			<b>8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER</b>	
<b>9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b> U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012			<b>10. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER</b>	
<b>11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES</b>				
<b>12a. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT</b> Approved for Public Release; Distribution Unlimited				<b>12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE</b>
<b>13. Abstract (Maximum 200 Words) (abstract should contain no proprietary or confidential information)</b> The current experiment examines the efficacy of acustimulation (mild electrical stimulation to an acupuncture point) to the Neiguan (P6) acupuncture point (located on the ventral surface of the wrist) in controlling chemotherapy-induced NV. It is a randomized three-arm clinical trial testing the usefulness of an acustimulation wrist band for the relief of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting as an adjunct to standard 5-HT3 antiemetics. Patients who experienced nausea at their first treatment are eligible to participate. Patients in the two treatment groups (i.e., correct location: band worn on the inside of the wrist and sham location: band worn on the outside of the wrist) put on the acustimulation wrist band prior to the administration of chemotherapy and wear it for five days. The use of an active acustimulation band in the sham condition should effectively control for both the placebo effect and for any effect due to the release of endorphins and will therefore speak directly to the efficacy of acupuncture point stimulation. In addition, the experiment has a "no band" condition for additional comparisons. The study is proceeding on target with 94 of the targeted 107 patients having accrued thus far. We anticipate no problems in completing the study.				
<b>14. SUBJECT TERMS</b> acupressure, nausea and vomiting, intervention, cancer control, alternative medicine, breast cancer			<b>15. NUMBER OF PAGES</b> 18	
			<b>16. PRICE CODE</b>	
<b>17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT</b> Unclassified	<b>18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE</b> Unclassified	<b>19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT</b> Unclassified	<b>20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT</b> Unlimited	

NSN 7540-01-280-5500

Standard Form 298 (Rev. 2-89)  
Prescribed by ANSI Std. Z39-18  
298-102

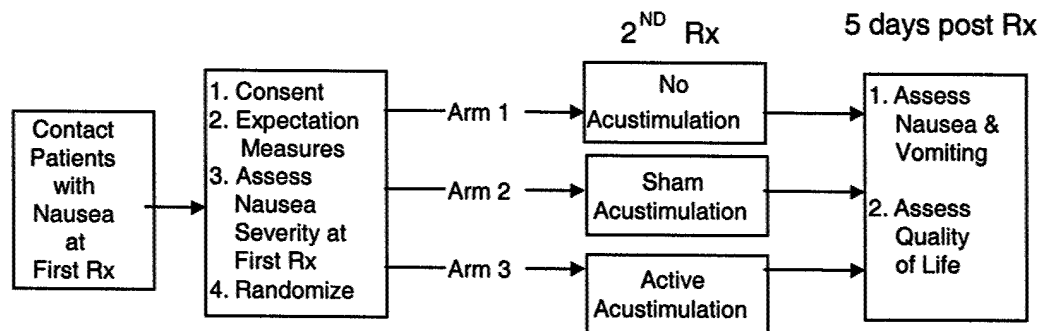
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## Introduction

The current experiment examines the efficacy of acustimulation (mild electrical stimulation to an acupuncture point) to the Neiguan (P6) acupuncture point (located on the ventral surface of the wrist) in controlling chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting (NV). In traditional Chinese medicine, this acupuncture point is associated with NV relief. It is a randomized three-arm clinical trial testing the usefulness of an acustimulation wrist band for the relief of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting as an adjunct to standard 5-HT<sub>3</sub> antiemetics. Patients who experienced nausea at their first treatment are eligible to participate. Patients in the two treatment groups (i.e., correct location: band worn on the inside of the wrist and sham location: band worn on the outside of the wrist) put on the acustimulation wrist band prior to the administration of chemotherapy and wear it for five days. The use of an active acustimulation band in the sham condition should effectively control for both the placebo effect and for any effect due to the release of endorphins and will therefore speak directly to the efficacy of acupuncture point stimulation. In addition, the experiment has a "no band" condition for additional comparisons.

## STUDY SCHEMA



**Hypothesis:** Acustimulation to the Neiguan (P6) acupuncture point will be efficacious in controlling both delayed and acute chemotherapy-induced NV.

**Primary Question:** Can an acustimulation wrist band reduce the nausea and emesis that occurs on the day of chemotherapy treatment (acute) and that occurring on days 2 - 5 following treatment (delayed)?

**Secondary Question:** Is any effectiveness found for acustimulation related to patient expectancies of the effectiveness of the wrist band?

## Body

Status of tasks listed in the Statement of Work:

- Task 1:** Month 1: Prepare treatment protocols and obtain IRB approval  
**Status:** Completed, the study is approved and open to accrual at four locations. Two of the sites, Highland Hospital Cancer Center and Strong Memorial Hospital Cancer Center, are under the governing IRB at Strong Memorial Hospital. The remaining two, Rochester General Hospital Cancer Center and the Genesee Hospital Cancer Center, are under the governing IRB of VIA Health. Note: Patients are no longer being recruited at the Genesee Hospital as the hospital has been closed.
- Task 2:** Month 1: Present study protocol to clinic staffs at all study sites.  
**Status:** Completed, the study has been presented to the clinic staff at four locations.
- Task 3:** Month 1: Prepare intervention materials and questionnaires.  
**Status:** Completed. A copy of the one-page instruction sheet that we give patients and the study measures are attached.
- Task 4:** Months 1-34: Collect preliminary data on subjects screened for entry into the randomized study  
**Status:** Ongoing. As part of our accrual process, we examine clinic schedules at the Highland Hospital Cancer Center, the Strong Memorial Hospital Cancer Center and the Rochester General Hospital Cancer Center in order to identify patients who have had one cycle of chemotherapy and who may be eligible for our study. We then contact the patient's oncologist for permission to talk to the patient about the study. As noted above, patients are no longer being recruited at the Genesee Hospital.
- Task 5:** Months 1-34: Randomize eligible patients who have signed a consent form to group assignment (target accrual = 107 patients).  
**Status:** Ongoing, 92 patients have been accrued and randomized to the protocol. In addition, data from two patient who were recruited prior to commencement of the experiment in order to test study procedures will be included in the analyses as no changes to study procedures were made. Of the 94 patients, 85 completed the study and provided evaluable data, 8 patients did not return any data and the data from one patient was incomplete. Accrual and evaluable patients per treatment arm are as follows:
- Arm 1 - Accrual = 32 - Evaluable = 29  
Arm 2 - Accrual = 31 - Evaluable = 27  
Arm 3 - Accrual = 31 - Evaluable = 29
- We anticipated that that 5% or 5 of the targeted 107 patients would not provide evaluable data. At this point in the study with over 87% of our accrual complete we have a total of 9 unevaluable patients (just under 10% of those accrued). We consider this well within the acceptable range.
- Task 6:** Months 1-34: Carry out the study.  
**Status:** Ongoing

Task 7: Months 1-34: Monitor daily clinic schedules at all study sites (oncology departments in three Rochester hospitals) to insure timely accrual of subjects for the study.

**Status:** Ongoing

Task 8: Months 1-34: Review progress of study and address any problems as they arise.

**Status:** Ongoing, no problems have arisen.

Task 9: Months 1-34: Complete required annual reports.

**Status:** Ongoing

Task 10: Months 1-34: Edit, verify and input data as they are collected.

**Status:** Ongoing, the data for these 94 patients has been entered into an Access data base.

Task 11: Months 35-36: Analyze results according to data analysis plan.

**Status:** No analyses have been made thus far

Task 12: Months 35-36: Write final report and complete fiscal accounting.

**Status:** Not applicable thus far

### **Key Research Accomplishments**

To have successfully completed research tasks 1-3 and to be productively engaged in accomplishing tasks 4-10.

### **Reportable Outcomes**

Not applicable thus far

### **Conclusions**

Study is proceeding as planned with 94 of the targeted 107 patients having been accrued thus far and no unexpected problems encountered. We have not begun data analysis so at this point have no reportable outcomes.

## **Reliefband Positions**

**Inside wrist position:** The center of band should be approximately 3 fingers width from the crease of the wrist.

**Outside wrist position:** The center of band should be approximately 2 fingers width from the crease of the wrist (where a watch is normally worn).

## **Instructions for using the Reliefband**

1. Put a thin film of conductivity gel on the area of the wrist that will be touching the electrodes on the Reliefband. The area covered should be about the size of a quarter and in the middle of the wrist. The gel easily washes off and can be reapplied as necessary. Clean the electrodes with Kleenex whenever the gel is reapplied. Avoid using too much gel because this can reduce the electrical conductivity.
2. The Reliefband can be worn on either wrist or alternated between wrists as desired. Please do not change between the inside wrist and the outside wrist positions unless instructed to do so by the study manager.
3. Take care not to get the Reliefband wet.
4. You may adjust the intensity of the Reliefband using the dial to any of the five settings.
5. Please keep the Reliefband in a safe place during times you are not wearing it. It is very fragile and we have only a limited number of them. Please do not let any children handle it.
6. Call Joe Roscoe, Ph.D. or Sara Matteson, Psy.D. if you have questions about any aspect of the study or have problems with the Reliefband.

Joe: 275-9962 office  
872-3562 home

Sara: 275-2788 office

7. Call your doctor or nurse as you normally would if you have medically related problems or questions.
8. Take the Reliefband off if it is causing you any problems.
9. **Do not let anyone with a pacemaker wear the Reliefband.**



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## ACUPRESSURE STUDY

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Patient I.D.

- ☐ No band

☐ Outside of wrist

☐ Inside of wrist

DATE        /        /         
mo. day year

## ON STUDY DATA

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Please answer the following questions about yourself.

1. Marital Status: ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated ☐ Single ☐ Widowed
2. Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female
3. Age 

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4. Race: ☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Asian ☐ American Indian ☐ Other
5. What has your average daily alcohol consumption been over the past year?  
☐ less than 1 drink ☐ 1 drink ☐ 2 drinks ☐ 3 drinks ☐ 4 or more drinks
6. Are you susceptible to motion sickness? ☐ yes ☐ no
7. Did you experience pregnancy-related morning sickness? ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ not applicable
8. Did you have morning sickness that included vomiting? ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ not applicable
9. In general, are you more susceptible to **nausea** than your friends and family?  
☐ yes ☐ no ☐ about the same susceptibility
10. In general, are you more susceptible to **vomiting** than your friends and family?  
☐ yes ☐ no ☐ about the same susceptibility
11. Based upon what you know of yourself, how much chemotherapy-related **nausea** do you think you will have compared to other patients receiving the same treatments ?  
☐ more ☐ less ☐ about the same amount
12. Based upon what you know of yourself, how much chemotherapy-related **vomiting** do you think you will have compared to other patients receiving the same treatments ?  
☐ more ☐ less ☐ about the same amount



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Patient I.D.

DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
mo. day year**PATIENT EXPECTATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

Please answer these questions prior to your chemotherapy treatment (but after the wrist band is in position for those patients randomized to wear a wrist band). **Answer the questions based on what you think will happen, not on what you hope will happen.**

1. How would you describe the NAUSEA at its worst after your first chemotherapy treatment?

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Very mild or none at all | <input type="radio"/> Severe      |
| <input type="radio"/> Mild                     | <input type="radio"/> Very severe |
| <input type="radio"/> Moderate                 | <input type="radio"/> Intolerable |

Here is a list of side effects that some patients have with some chemotherapies. For each side effect, please circle one number that best indicates your feelings:

I am certain I will  
NOT have this

I am certain I  
WILL have this

- |                   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2. nausea         | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. vomiting       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. fatigue        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. sleep problems | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

6. What do you think your level of NAUSEA will be at its worst after this treatment?

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Very mild or none at all | <input type="radio"/> Severe      |
| <input type="radio"/> Mild                     | <input type="radio"/> Very severe |
| <input type="radio"/> Moderate                 | <input type="radio"/> Intolerable |

7. What do side effects mean to you regarding the effect of the treatment on the disease?

- ☐ Side effects mean that the chemotherapy is not working
- ☐ Side effects mean that the chemotherapy is working
- ☐ Side effects have no particular meaning

Answer the next question only if you have been randomized to wear a wrist band.

8. How effective do you think the wrist band you are wearing will be in helping to relieve or prevent treatment-related nausea and vomiting?

Not at all Effective

Very Effective

1

2

3

4

5

9887



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Patient I.D.

DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
mo. day year

## LOT - R

Please answer the following questions about yourself. Be as honest as you can throughout, and try not to let your response to one question influence your responses to other questions. There are no right or wrong answers.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
1. In uncertain times, I usually expect the best.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. It's easy for me to relax.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. If something can go wrong for me, it will.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. I'm always optimistic about my future.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. I enjoy my friends a lot.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. It's important for me to keep busy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. I hardly ever expect things to go my way.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. I don't get upset too easily.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. I rarely count on good things happening to me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Overall, I expect more good things to happen to me than bad.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
mo. day year

Patient I.D.

**FACT-G**

Below is a list of statements that other people with your illness have said are "important." Circle one number per line to indicate how true each statement has been for you during the past 5 days.

During the past 5 days:

	Not at all	A little bit	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very Much
<b>PHYSICAL WELL-BEING</b>					
1) I have a lack of energy .....	1	2	3	4	5
2) I have nausea .....	1	2	3	4	5
3) I have trouble meeting the needs of my family .....	1	2	3	4	5
4) I have pain .....	1	2	3	4	5
5) I am bothered by the side effects of treatment .....	1	2	3	4	5
6) In general, I feel sick .....	1	2	3	4	5
7) I am forced to spend time in bed.....	1	2	3	4	5
8) How much does your PHYSICAL WELL-BEING effect your quality of life?					

Not Much    1       2       3       4       5       6       7       8       9       10       Very much so



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Patient I.D.

**FACT-G (continued)**

Below is a list of statements that other people with your illness have said are "important." Circle one number per line to indicate how true each statement has been for you during the past 5 days.

During the past 5 days:	Not at all	A little bit	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very Much						
<b>SOCIAL/FAMILY WELL-BEING</b>											
9) I feel distant from my friends .....	1	2	3	4	5						
10) I get emotional support from my family .....	1	2	3	4	5						
11) I get support from my friends and neighbors .....	1	2	3	4	5						
12) My family has accepted my illness .....	1	2	3	4	5						
13) Family communication about my illness is poor .... (If you do not have a spouse/partner nor are sexually active, go to #16)	1	2	3	4	5						
14) I feel close to my partner (or main support).....	1	2	3	4	5						
15) I am satisfied with my sex life .....	1	2	3	4	5						
16) How much does your SOCIAL/FAMILYWELL-BEING effect your quality of life?											
Not Much	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very much so

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Patient I.D.

**FACT-G (continued)**

Below is a list of statements that other people with your illness have said are "important." Circle one number per line to indicate how true each statement has been for you during the past 5 days.

During the past 5 days:

Not at  
allA little  
bit

Somewhat

Quite a  
bitVery  
Much**RELATIONSHIP WITH DOCTOR**

17) I have confidence in my doctor(s) ..... 1 2 3 4 5

18) My doctor is available to answer my questions ..... 1 2 3 4 5

19) How much does your **RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR DOCTOR** effect your quality of life?

Not Much 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very much so

During the past 5 days:

Not at  
allA little  
bit

Somewhat

Quite a  
bitVery  
Much**EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING**

20) I feel sad ..... 1 2 3 4 5

21) I am proud of how I am coping with my illness ..... 1 2 3 4 5

22) I am losing hope in the fight against my illness ..... 1 2 3 4 5

23) I feel nervous ..... 1 2 3 4 5

24) I worry about dying ..... 1 2 3 4 5

25) How much does your **EMOTIONALWELL-BEING** effect your quality of life?

Not Much 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very much so

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Patient I.D.

**FACT-G (continued)**

Below is a list of statements that other people with your illness have said are "important." Circle one number per line to indicate how true each statement has been for you during the past 5 days.

During the past 5 days:	Not at all	A little bit	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very Much						
<b>FUNCTIONAL WELL-BEING</b>											
26) I am able to work (include work in home) .....	1	2	3	4	5						
27) My work (include work in home) is fulfilling .....	1	2	3	4	5						
28) I am able to enjoy life "in the moment" .....	1	2	3	4	5						
29) I have accepted my illness .....	1	2	3	4	5						
30) I am sleeping well .....	1	2	3	4	5						
31) I am enjoying my usual leisure activity pursuits .....	1	2	3	4	5						
32) I am content with the quality of my life right now ....	1	2	3	4	5						
33) How much does your FUNCTIONAL WELL-BEING effect your quality of life?											
Not Much	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very much so

## ACUPRESSURE STUDY

U8199

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DATE COMPLETED      /      /       
mo day year

Patient I.D.

## FIVE-DAY RECORD OF NAUSEA AND VOMITING

**Directions:** Enter a number from 1 to 7 in each of the boxes that corresponds to how you felt at that time.

Day of Treatment	1st Day Following Treatment	2nd Day Following Treatment	3rd Day Following Treatment	4th Day Following Treatment
(day of wk)	(day of wk)	(day of wk)	(day of wk)	(day of wk)

How nauseated did you feel?	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Nighttime
-----------------------------	---------	-----------	---------	-----------

## NAUSEA SCALE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not at all Nauseated			Moderately Nauseated			Extremely Nauseated

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--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--

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**Directions:** Please tell us how many times you vomited.

How many times did you vomit? Enter "0" if none.	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Nighttime
--	---------	-----------	---------	-----------

--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--

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**VOMITING:**  
Indicate the actual number of times you vomited.

REV 7/6/00

FDHR 1

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Patient I.D.

## FIVE-DAY RECORD OF ANTI-NAUSEA MEDICATION

Please tell us how many and what types of anti-nausea medication that you took at home during the five days after your treatment. We are separating anti-nausea medications into 4 types. Please circle the medication name and fill in the boxes to tell us how many pills or suppositories of each type that you used during each portion of the day. Use the other box under type 4 for non-listed medications.

How many pills or suppositories of Type 1 did you take?	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Nighttime	Day of Treatment (day of wk)	1st Day		2nd Day		3rd Day		4th Day		Type 1 Granisetron (Kytrel) Ondansetron (Zofran) Mesylate (Anzemet) Tropisetron (Navoban)
						Following Treatment (day of wk)	Following Treatment (day of wk)	Following Treatment (day of wk)	Following Treatment (day of wk)					

How many pills or suppositories of Type 2 did you take?	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Nighttime	Type 2 Prochlorperazine (Compazine)



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Patient I.D.

## FIVE-DAY RECORD OF ANTI-NAUSEA MEDICATION (Cont'd.)

Please tell us how many and what types of anti-nausea medication that you took at home during the five days after your treatment. We are separating anti-nausea medications into 4 types. Please circle the medication name and fill in the boxes to tell us how many pills or suppositories of each type that you used during each portion of the day. Use the other box under type 4 for non-listed medications.

How many pills or suppositories of Type 3 did you take?	Morning Afternoon Evening Nighttime	Day of Treatment		1st Day		2nd Day		3rd Day		4th Day		Type 3 Dexamethasone (Decadron)
		(day of wk)		(day of wk)		(day of wk)		(day of wk)		(day of wk)		

How many pills or suppositories of Type 4 did you take?	Morning Afternoon Evening Nighttime	Day of Treatment		1st Day		2nd Day		3rd Day		4th Day		Type 4 Metochlopramide (Reglan) Other (please give name)
		(day of wk)		(day of wk)		(day of wk)		(day of wk)		(day of wk)		

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Patient I.D.

## FIVE-DAY RECORD (Supplement)

Complete this next section only if you wore the wrist band for this treatment. Please answer these questions on the fourth day following your treatment.

1. How useful do you think the wrist band was in reducing NAUSEA?

- ☐ Very  
☐ Somewhat  
☐ Works a little  
☐ Doesn't seem to help

2. How useful do you think the wrist band was in reducing VOMITING?

- ☐ Very  
☐ Somewhat  
☐ Works a little  
☐ Doesn't seem to help

3. How many hours did you wear the wrist band?

- ☐ less than 1    ☐ 1-5    ☐ 5-24    ☐ 24-48    ☐ more than 48

4. Based upon your experience with the wrist band at this treatment, would you recommend it to other patients receiving the same chemotherapy?

Strongly Do  
Not Recommend

Highly  
Recommend

1	2	3	4	5
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